

DD/R-528-63

28 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Research)
Assistant Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT : Comments - ELINT Automatic Data
Processing

REFERENCE : USIB-SC-13.1/13, attached

1. The attached paper, concerning Automatic Data Processing and related SIGINT matters, is an outgrowth of many months of discussion and study. The essence of the situation centers primarily around information storage and retrieval as it applies to COMINT. ELINT is involved at this juncture, at least primarily, because it gets dragged in under the omnibus title "SIGINT."

2. The USIB Committee on Documentation (code CODIB) under Paul Borel has, as you know, been concerned for a long time with information storage and retrieval problems on a community-wide basis. Because of the peculiarity of SIGINT materials, particularly COMINT as applies to security, and other unique features, it made it impossible to throw this topic into the "hopper" along with all other intelligence materials. Therefore, a COMINT Working Group was established under the Chairmanship of [redacted] to consider this particular problem and coordinate its findings with the CODIB Committee. This Working Group has come up with some recommendations (page 3 of the attachment) which aim toward a community-wide approach on the problems of mutually compatible machine language generating devices and the subsequent storage, retrieval and processing systems. The DD/R actually has no particular worry, concern or action in this matter at this time.

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3. Insofar as ELINT is concerned, since it is usually not in COMINT channels, it could be processed under the standard non-COMINT system. Conversely, if it must be handled within COMINT channels, it can be brought into whatever the COMINT people agree upon. Since we have no responsibility for either the COMINT or COMINT ADP systems, we haven't much concern other than to be generally aware of the fact that ELINT must tie in with either one or the other. In my opinion, there really is quite a valid point to what is going on here because COMINT and ELINT activities provide a unique opportunity to achieve machine language "input" at the source, i. e., when being communicated from the field, teleprinters, etc. Obviously, then, if the whole community employed mutually compatible devices and procedures all along the line, much savings and efficiency could be realized.

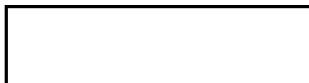


Executive Assistant
Deputy Director (Research)

Attachment:

USIB-SC-13. 1/13

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